

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12

NEA-09 FEA-01 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01

CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-10

JUSE-00 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01

PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /143 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2416

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2959

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJ: CONTINENTAL SHELF

FOLLOWING IS TEXT ON DEFINITION AND OUTER LIMIT OF
CONTINENTAL SHELF SUBMITTED TO EVENSEN GROUP BY CANADA
ON APRIL 26 WITHOUT DISCUSSION. TEXT IS SUPPORTED BY
ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, AND THE UK.
US HAS RESERVED ITS POSITION ON PARAGRAPH 2 OF TEXT.

BEGIN TEXT:

THE CONTINENTAL SHELF

1. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CONVENTION THE CONTINENTAL
SHELF OF A COASTAL STATE COMPRISES THE SEABED AND SUBSOIL
OF THE SUBMARINE AREAS THAT EXTEND BEYOND ITS TERRI-
TORIAL SEA THROUGHOUT THE NATURAL PROLONGATION OF ITS
LAND TERRITORY TO THE OUTER EDGE OF THE CONTINENTAL
MARGIN, OR TO A DISTANCE OF 200 NAUTICAL MILES FROM THE
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BASELINES FROM WHICH THE BREADTH OF THE TERRITORIAL

SEA IS MEASURED WHERE THE CONTINENTAL MARGIN DOES NOT
EXTEND BEYOND THAT DISTANCE.

2. THE CONTINENTAL MARGIN COMPRISES THE SUBMERGED
PROLONGATION OF THE ROCKS OF THE LAND MASS OR DERIVED
THEREFROM, AND INCLUDES ALL SUCH ROCKS UNDERLYING THE
PHYSIOGRAPHIC CONTINTAL SHELF, SLOPE AND RISE, BUT
DOES NOT INCLUDE THE ROCKS OR THE SEDIMENTS OF THE DEEP
OCEAN FLOOR.

3. THE SEAWARD BOUNDARY OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF
SHALL BE DELINEATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES
SET OUT IN PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2 ABOVE. ALTERNATIVELY
THE COASTAL STATE MAY DELINEATE SUCH BOUNDARY BY
DRAWING STRAIGHT LINES CONNECTING FIXED POINTS WHICH
ARE NOT MORE THAN 60 NAUTICAL MILES FROM THE FOOT OF
THE CONTINENTAL SLOPE.

4. THE COASTAL STATE SHALL DELINEATE THE SEAWARD
BOUNDARY OF ITS CONTINENTAL SHELF WHERE THAT SHELF
EXTENDS BEYOND 200 MILES FROM THE BASELINES AND SHALL
DESIGNATE THAT BOUNDARY BY STRAIGHT LINES NOT EXCEEDING-
NAUTICAL MILES IN LENGTH, CONNECTING FIXED POINTS,
SUCH POINTS TO BE DEFINED BY COORDINATES OF LATITUDE
AND LONGITUDE.

5. EVERY DELINEATION PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE SHALL
BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONTINENTAL SHELF BOUNDARY COMMISSION
FOR REVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX . ACCEPTANCE
BY THE COMMISSION OF A DELINEATION SO SUBMITTED, OR
THE FINAL DECISION OF THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE
WITH ANNEX AND THE SEAWARD BOUNDARY SO FIXED,
SHALL BE FINAL AND BINDING.

6. A BOUNDARY ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE DESCRIBED ON
APPROPRIATE CHARTS WHICH DESCRIPTIONS SHALL BE PER-
MANENT.

7. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE ARE WITHOUT PRE-
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JUDICE TO THE QUESTION OF DELIMITATION OF THE CONTIN-
ENTAL SHELF BETWEEN OPPOSITE OR ADJACENT STATES.
END TEXT.
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